

Holy Cross Ranger District  
24747 US Hwy 24  
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United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

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## **FALL CREEK TRAIL #2001**

**Length:** 8.7 miles (one way)

**Difficulty:** More Difficult

**Beginning Elevation:** 10,314 ft.

**Elevation Gain:** +2,807 ft.-1,942 ft. = +865 ft.

**Trail Use:** Moderate to High

**Open To:** Hiking, Horseback

**Ending Elevation:** 11,170 ft.

**USGS Map(s):** Minturn, Mt. of the Holy Cross

**Permit Information:** In order to continue to provide quality recreation experiences and to protect the wilderness lands, the Forest Service must gather data regarding visitor use and travel patterns. Each party staying overnight in the Holy Cross Wilderness is **required to self-register at the trailhead and to carry a copy of the registration with them** during their visit. There is no fee charged and no limit to the number of permits issued.

**Access from Vail:** Take Exit 171 off I-70 for Minturn and Hwy. 24. Turn right onto Hwy.24:

NORTH TRAILHEAD, proceed about 4 miles, passing through Minturn, to Tigiwon Road #707. Turn right onto Tigiwon Road and continue to the end – 8 miles of rough dirt road. Park at the parking area at the end of the road. \*\* Tigiwon Road is closed to motorized vehicles annually from May 1 to June 20. It will open on June 20 if the road is snow-free. \*\*

SOUTH TRAILHEAD, proceed 12 miles on Hwy. 24 to Homestake Road #703. Turn right and travel 8 miles on Homestake Road to the Holy Cross City jeep road #759. Park here and walk about 2 miles up the road to the trailhead. NOTE: *This jeep road is very rough and should not be attempted unless you have a 4WD with a winch.*

**Trail Highlights:** From the North Trailhead, the trail climbs gradually to Lake Constantine. After crossing Fall Creek, the trail climbs abruptly to the alpine meadows below Fall Creek Pass. Over the pass, the trail drops down to the Seven Sisters Lakes and then to Hunky Dory Lake before intersecting the Holy Cross City Jeep Road. It's another 2 miles down to Homestake Road #703.

**Comments:** The middle portion of the trail, from Lake Constantine to Hunky Dory Lake, is less traveled. The stair step arrangement of the Seven Sisters Lakes and the towering rock cliffs around them offers rugged alpine scenery for hikers who venture farther. Many side trips can be taken from this trail such as Notch Mountain, Tuhare Lakes and the Holy Cross City site.

**Important Information:** Fall Creek is within the **Holy Cross Wilderness**. Wilderness is for your use and enjoyment, but you have an obligation to leave it unimpaired for future generations. Please understand your responsibilities when visiting these special places and leave no trace of your visit. A few of the Holy Cross Wilderness regulations include:

- \* Camping - camp at least 100 feet from streams, lakes, and trails.
- \* Dogs - must be under control and must not harass wildlife, people, or damage property.
- \* Fire - campstoves are recommended and fires are prohibited at and above timberline.
- \* Group size - limit group sizes to 15 people.
- \* Sanitation - bury human waste at least 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.

**PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!**

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic map and compass prior to your hiking trip.



